# Victim and Witness Assistance and Resources

#### **SAVAN**

## (Statewide Automated Victim Assistance & Notification)

1-877-NC-SAVAN (1-877-627-2826)

www.ncsavan.org

Victims of crime can call to register for this to receive free, anonymous, computer-based telephone programs that provide information on offenders, including an automated notification when an offender is to be released.

## **Wake County Clerk of Court**

Domestic Violence Unit

Wake County Justice C enter – 5<sup>th</sup> Floor

316 Fayetteville St.

Raleigh, NC

(919) 792-4100

The Domestic Violence Unit is generally responsible for assisting the public, answering questions, and helping victims of domestic violence with regard to protective orders, court dates, show cause hearings, protective order extensions, and protective order violations.

## **Wake County District Attorney**

Victim Services Program

8th Floor, Wake County Courthouse

Raleigh, N.C. 27602

(919) 792-5000

This program is designed to ensure that crime victims receive information, assistance, and support as their cases progress through the criminal justice system.

Victim Witness Assistants' duties consist of providing essential information to victims pertaining to their court cases, serving as liaison between the victim and the prosecutor, and keeping victims notified of all court proceedings. Additional support and services furnished by VWA include:

- Accompanying victims and witnesses to hearings and trials and answering their questions during these proceedings.
- Helping victims' access local community services such as counseling and support groups.
- Assisting victims with Victim's Compensation applications from the North Carolina
   Department of Public Safety (1-800-826-6200), victim's impact statements, and other related matters.

## **InterAct of Wake County**

1012 Oberlin Road Raleigh, NC 27605 919-828-7501

www.interactofwake.org

InterAct is a private, non-profit, United Way agency that provides safety, support, and awareness to victims and survivors of domestic violence and rape/sexual assault.

Services include:

## 24-Hour Crisis Lines

Staff and volunteers trained in subject matters concerning domestic violence, sexual assault, and incest are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week via two phone lines.

Counselors offer crisis counseling, information, assistance with shelter, emotional support, and referrals to other agencies as needed.

(919) 828-3005 for Sexual Assault

(919) 828-7740 for Domestic Violence Services

#### Counseling

Individual Counseling:

Staff and trained volunteers are available for in-office crisis counseling on a walk in basis to clients and their children who are dealing with rape, incest or domestic violence. Spanish-speaking counselors are available.

Counselors offer crisis counseling, information, assistance with shelter, emotional support, assistance with Domestic Violence Protective Orders and referrals to other agencies or resources as needed. Their aim is to empower clients in immediate crisis to make informed decisions about their situations, and to offer resources so that they may reach their goals.

## Support Groups

InterAct offers support and informational groups for women who have experienced or are still experiencing domestic abuse, along with groups for survivors of rape or incest (adults only). For women who are in the domestic-violence support group, a group for their children (ages 5-13) is available in which the children can discuss their feelings about the abuse their mothers have experienced.

#### Court Advocacy

InterAct provides court advocacy for clients involved in civil or criminal cases as a result of experiencing domestic violence or sexual assault. InterAct staff and trained volunteers can assist clients in a variety of ways.

On site at the Wake County Courthouse, InterAct advocates are present in criminal and civil domestic violence courtrooms to directly provide support and assistance to clients involved with the judicial system, and to advocate on behalf of clients to courthouse personnel. A court

advocate is also available for superior court cases involving rape or sexual assault providing the same services.

Court advocates can assist with paperwork for domestic violence protective orders and criminal charges. Also referrals to the appropriate resources such as the appropriate people in law enforcement, the District Attorney, a magistrate, clerk offices, and victim services and compensation can be made. Although court advocates cannot provide legal advice or representation for clients in civil and criminal cases, advocates can connect clients with legal services.

#### Residential Shelter

InterAct's Residential Shelter provides safe housing and a comprehensive program of counseling and advocacy to women and their children who are escaping violent relationships. The women and children stay for eight weeks, during which time counselors and advocates work extensively with them. The shelter is a 45-bed facility located in a secret location in Wake County. Secrecy is important to protect the women, children, and staff from violent abusers.

#### <u>Hospital Response</u>

InterAct provides volunteers and staff who are able to respond to clients who have been taken to area hospitals as a result of injuries at the hands of an abuser. This can be arranges by contacting the crisis hotline.

**SAFEChild Advocacy Center** 

864 West Morgan Street Raleigh, NC 27603 919-231-5515 www.safechild.org

The SAFEchild Advocacy Center is a warm, welcoming community-based center that provides

evaluations for children when there is a concern for sexual abuse, physical abuse, and neglect. Children talk with caring professionals who help them with physical and psychological healing. All of the services that the young victims and their families need are located in one welcoming, convenient location, which eases the amount of stress a family, endures and prevents children from being re-traumatized.

## **Triangle Family Services**

3937 Western Boulevard Raleigh, NC 27606 919.821.0790

http://www.tfsnc.org/

This organization assists families who are experiencing family violence, financial crisis, as well as those who are in need of mental health services.

## **Emergency Housing Assistance Program**

Provides assistance to families living in Wake County whose income is 30% or below area median income and who are at imminent risk of becoming homeless or are currently homeless.

#### Supervised Visitation Program

This program protects children and victims of family violence by effectively preventing further incidents of violence from occurring. By providing a safe and protected environment for children to meet with non-custodial parents when the court has determined that supervision is required, the program is able to ensure safety for the child and the victimized parent.

Family Safety Division – Developing Opportunities for a Safe Environment (DOSE)

Utilizes a 26-week, psycho-educational group approach for abusers. The program helps more than 98% of those successfully completing the program to resume a normal life without additional domestic violence offenses.

## Mental Health Services

Mental health programs provide individual and family counseling by licensed clinicians and psychiatrists.

## **Wake County Human Services**

401 E Whitaker Mill Rd Raleigh, NC (919) 212-7000

# http://www.wakegov.com/humanservices

This entity provides various programs including; behavioral health services, child protective services and foster care, maternal and child health services, homeless services and affordable housing, public health and clinics, and social services.

## **Community Helpers Service Center**

111-B N. First St. Knightdale, NC 27545 919-271-0181

This service is a food pantry. Pantry hours: Wed - Thurs. 8am-3pm

**NC Attorney General** 

Sex Offender Registry

http://sexoffender.ncdoj.gov/

Sign up here to receive e-mail alerts when an offender registers to an address in your community, or to track a specific offender. You can also map all offenders' addresses up to five miles away from any site you choose, such as home, school, child care center or park.

#### **NC Attorney General**

**Identity Theft Website** 

http://www.ncdoj.gov/Protect-Yourself/2-4-3-Protect-Your-Identity.aspx

Learn about the steps to take if you have been a victim of identity theft. The website provides victims with instructional material, downloadable forms, resource links and other information useful in controlling and recovering from the effects of identity theft.

## North Carolina Address Confidentiality Program

9099 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699 919-716-6785

The Address Confidentiality Program helps victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and human trafficking keep their abusers from discovering their new address.

#### The National Center for Victims of Crime

www.victimsofcrime.org

The National Center for Victims of Crime serves as a trusted source of current information on victim's issues. It provides resources and information for victims of a variety of crimes including stalking, elder abuse, financial fraud and sexual violence.